

Dec. 31, 2012



Island Insight



This publication is published weekly and contains information about, for, and of interest to the Island Workforce. This document is also available on the Island Intranet under "Information" and on the installation website at www.ria.army.mil under "About USAG-RIA" and then "News" and "Local News."

Island Insight Submission: <http://www.ria.army.mil/sites/IslandAnn/announcement.cfm>

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INCLEMENT WEATHER OPERATING STATUS

POTUS: No Deal on Sequestration:

President Obama, speaking with a group of what the White House characterized as middle class Americans arrayed on a stage behind him, announced Monday afternoon that a deal to prevent a series of tax hikes from going into effect at the beginning of the New Year was "within sight." But that deal, the president indicated, did not include a bargain to stop automatic cuts in discretionary federal spending from going into effect.

"We're still going to have some work to do," Obama said. That work, he added, would include addressing the prospect of automatic spending cuts, known as sequestration. Sequestration would impose cuts of 9.4 percent in nonexempt defense discretionary funding in fiscal 2013 and 8.2 percent in nonexempt, nondefense discretionary funding. Obama said that would involve cuts in everything from Defense Department programs to Head Start. "We're using

an ax instead of a scalpel" with the sequester cuts, Obama said. "That's a piece of business that still has to be taken care of." It's possible that a last-minute fiscal cliff agreement could include language delaying sequestration for several months or a year. But more



tax revenues "have to be part of the equation in turning off the sequester," the president said. ([More](#)) ([Fiscal Cliff Deadline: Live Updates](#))

How Badly Will Budget Cuts Hurt Troops, DoD Civilians?

In the final presidential debate, President Barack Obama declared to the American people with unflinching certainty that sequestration "will not happen." Two months later, the Jan. 1 deadline is looming, with no debt reduction deal in sight. Now what? ([More](#))



Agencies Have Much Flexibility in Managing Furloughs:

Federal employees should report to work as normal Wednesday even if no deal is reached on heading off across-the-board budget cuts set to begin that same day, the Office of Personnel Management said in new guidance. The cuts, formally known as sequestration, would carve anywhere from about 8 percent to 9 percent out of agencies' budgets during the remainder of this fiscal year. But the impact would not be immediate,



meaning that agencies "will not be executing" unpaid furloughs Jan. 2, according to the OPM guidance. ([More](#))

Debt Ceiling is the Next Fiscal Cliff:

No matter what happens with the fiscal cliff over the next few days, a potentially bigger budget mess is just around the corner. Congress will have to raise the debt ceiling soon, probably by late February or early March. The deadline sets the tables for another fight on Capitol Hill, where some Republican lawmakers view the debt limit as leverage in negotiations with President Obama over spending cuts and reforms to Medicare and Social Security. ([More](#))



President, Defense Leaders Praise Schwarzkopf's Service, Legacy:

President Barack Obama, Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta and Joint Chiefs Chairman Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey praised the service and legacy of retired Army Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf, who passed away yesterday at age 78.



Rock Island Arsenal Winter Weather Awareness



Soldiers, their Families, DA Civilians, contractors and visitors of RIA can visit the website below for information during severe winter weather. No CAC needed!

http://www.ria.army.mil/sites/inclement_weather

- The Garrison Installation Operations Center monitors current and projected hazardous weather conditions and advises the Garrison Manager.
- RIA closures, delays and early dismissals will be made by the Senior Commander, Garrison Manager and other key leaders.
- Information will be sent through command channels as soon as a decision is made and will be posted to the RIA Inclement Weather Operational Impact Page.
- Organizations are encouraged to use the RIA Inclement Weather Operational Impact Webpage to post their organizations status during inclement weather.

Post closures will include closing of all non essential garrison services (e.g. CYSS, Dining Facilities, Gym etc.)



<http://readyarmy.ria.army.mil>



Schwarzkopf was a Vietnam veteran and one of the architects of the western flanking movement that helped to defeat the Iraqi army during the Gulf War in early 1991. As the commander of U.S. Central Command, Schwarzkopf led the international coalition assembled by then-President George H.W. Bush that expelled Iraqi troops who had invaded Kuwait in August 1990. ([More](#)) ([ARNews](#))

Supreme Court Clarifies Appeals Rights for Federal Employees:

On December 10, 2012, the Supreme Court handed down a critical victory to federal employees in a highly technical case. This decision now gives federal employees a simpler and less confusing process for appealing discrimination cases that have been dismissed by the Merits Systems Protection Board (MSPB). Federal appellate courts previously were divided on which court should handle cases that were dismissed by the MSPB on procedural grounds. This Supreme Court decision gave a final answer to that question. *Kloeckner v. Solis*. The Court held that in a “mixed case” – one



involving both a wrongful-termination claim and a discrimination claim – where the MSPB does not decide the merits of the discrimination claim, and dismisses the wrongful termination claim on procedural grounds, the employee may seek judicial review in federal district court, rather than with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. ([More](#))

Private and Federal Organizations May Not Be As Different As We

Think: It's common to think that the nature of work in federal government organizations is different than in the private sector. There are differences in employees' roles, the mission or business of an organization and the products, services, and customers that private and federal organizations serve. This perception may also be reflected in the different ways management tends to deal with its workforce. The work "at will" nature of employment in the private sector, the role of unions, the evolution of retirement coverage, and other factors, such as benefits/compensation packages, tend to dictate different human resources



Upcoming Dates

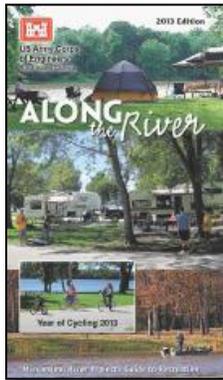
- Dec. 31:** New Year's Eve
- Jan. 1:** New Year's Day (*Federal Holiday*)
- Jan. 5:** U.S. Army All-American Bowl
- Jan. 13:** AMBER Alert Awareness Day
- Jan. 16:** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (*Federal Holiday*)
- Jan. 17:** 21st Anniversary of Operation Desert Storm
- Jan. 27:** National Eosinophilia Day
- Jan. 27-Feb. 2:** Tobacco-Free Awareness Week
- Jan. 28-Feb. 1:** No Name-Calling Week
- Jan. 28-Feb. 3:** National Drug Facts Week
- Jan. 29:** Thomas Paine Day
- Feb. 1:** National Wear Red Day
- Feb. 1:** National Freedom Day
- Feb. 1-7:** National Patient Recognition Week
- Feb. 2:** Groundhog Day
- Feb. 2:** National Junior Achievement Groundhog Job Shadow Day
- Feb. 3:** Super Bowl Sunday (Super Bowl XLVII)
- Feb. 3-9:** Burn Awareness Week
- Feb. 4:** USO 72nd Birthday
- Feb. 4:** World Cancer Day
- Feb. 4-10:** World Salt Awareness Week
- Feb. 4-11:** Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week
- Feb. 5:** Army Emergency Relief 73rd Birthday
- Feb. 5:** National Patient Recognition Day
- Feb. 5:** National Weatherman's Day
- Feb. 7:** National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
- Feb. 10-16:** Children of Alcoholics Week
- Feb. 11-15:** Random Acts of Kindness Week
- Feb. 12:** Darwin Day
- Feb. 14:** Valentine's Day
- Feb. 14:** National Donor Day
- Feb. 14:** National Pet Theft Awareness Day
- Feb. 17-24:** Military Saves Week
- Feb. 17-24:** Eating Disorders Awareness Week
- Feb. 18:** Presidents' Day (*Federal Holiday*)



policies and practices than has evolved in the public sector. ([More](#))

New 2013 Along The River – Guide to Recreation:

Each year the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District's Mississippi River Project publishes a new updated guide to camping and recreation areas along the banks of the Mississippi River that are managed by the project. This year's 2013 edition will be available soon and offers information on reserving a campsite, buying a boat ramp pass, campground amenities, and has a list of many things to see and do from Potosi, Wis., all the way to Saverton, Mo. If you are interested in receiving a free copy of this publication, please send your name and address to mvrodmn15@usace.army.mil and we will be happy to send you one.



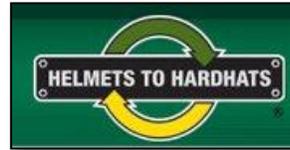
DoD Awards First Joint Licensing

Agreement: The Defense Department has leveraged the buying power of more than two million information technology users to award a three-year, \$617 million joint enterprise license

agreement for Microsoft products, defense officials announced. The deal, led by the Army Contracting Command in collaboration with the Defense Information Systems Agency, the Army and the Air Force, demonstrates the best pricing DOD has received to date for Microsoft desktop and server software licenses, officials said. ([More](#))

Helmets to Hardhats Job Fair: What: Job Fair; When: Monday, **Jan. 7;**

Where: Iowa National Guard Facility - 9650 N. Harrison Street;



Davenport; Who: Sponsored by Helmets to Hardhats and the Tri-City Building and Construction Trades Council. The Helmets to Hardhats/Tri-City Building and Construction Trades Council Job Fair is open for active duty and military veterans from all branches of service, as well as all veterans groups and other military organizations throughout the region in both Iowa and Illinois. The job fair represents a great opportunity to highlight and showcase career opportunities for veterans in the skilled trades. Representatives from all of the skilled trades will be on hand to provide information pertaining to apprenticeship

programs and their particular trade. Applications for entry into apprenticeship programs will be available. ([More](#))

Quad City Bald Eagle Days: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mississippi River Project

would like to invite you to the Annual Quad City Bald Eagle Days, **Jan. 11-13**, at the [QCCA Expo Center](#).



Come see a live eagle presentation given by the World Bird Sanctuary of St. Louis or check out one of the other live animal shows presented by the Pella Wildlife Company and Niabi Zoo. This is a family friendly event that can last all day with many booths to see and hands on activities for the kids. An of course don't miss out on your chance to view these beautiful birds in the wild on one of the guided bus tours along the Mississippi. These outdoor eagle viewing tours will take you on a trip around the Quad City area and show you the many places to see these majestic birds. For more information call (309) 788-2543. ([Bald Eagle Watches in Illinois and Iowa during January](#))



How Many Holidays Will You Get in 2013? With the new year quickly approaching, you may want to start planning your vacation time in 2013. According to OPM, federal employees will get the following ten paid holidays next year, the first one coming next week with New Year's Day. ([More](#))

Antiterrorism Quarterly Theme - Cyber Threat: The Army antiterrorism theme for the 2Q/FY13 is Cyber Threat. The purpose of the theme is to promote Army-wide understanding of adversaries' use of cyberspace to conduct attacks and the fundamental security measures associated with protecting Army networks and critical resources from cyber attack. ([More](#))



Arc-BSC Holidays and Inventory: The Base Supply Center, Arc, will be closed on the following days: **Jan 1** - Closed for New Years Day; **Jan. 21** - Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Contact Store with any questions, (309) 782-1666.

Arsenal Attic Thrift Shop & Boutique: The Attic Thrift Shop reopens Thursday, **Jan. 3**, at 9 a.m. Lots of mark downs with something for everyone. Happy New Year and see you on the **Jan. 3**. POC: (309) 782-6977.

Historic Clock Tower and Eagle Watch Tours: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mississippi River Project announces that the Visitor Center at Locks and Dam 15 is inviting guests to come participate in a Historic Clock Tower and Eagle Watch Tour. Relive the early days of the Rock Island Arsenal as you climb your way up the historic corridor of the Clock Tower Building which has been a Quad City landmark for more than 100 years. Waiting at the top is a spectacular view of the Mississippi River where you could have the opportunity to see bald eagles who visit our area during the cold winter months. Visitors are invited to join these tours every Saturday and Sunday beginning **Jan. 19**, and running through **Feb. 10**. There will be two tours offered each day that will begin at 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. The tour will be



approximately 1½ hours long and be guided by a Visitor Center park ranger. The tour will begin at the Mississippi River Visitor Center, located on the west end of Arsenal Island at Locks and Dam 15. This program is free of charge and everyone is invited to attend. Advance registration is recommended. An adult must accompany children under 12 years of age. All persons over age 16 must carry a photo ID to enter the island. Vehicles are subject to search and participants should allow 15 minutes extra to ensure proper arrival time for the tour. For more information or to sign up for the program, please contact the Visitor Center at (309) 794-5338.

Blood Drive: The Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center is hosting a blood drive in the Caisson Room (First Floor, Bldg. 60), on **Friday, Jan. 11, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.** If you would like to donate at this blood drive, feel free to e-mail SHoegerl@mvrbc.com with the time you'd like to schedule, or call their Donor Center at (563) 359-5401, ext. 119. A **2nd shift** blood drive will be held in the Cafeteria (Bldg. 210) beginning at **6:15 p.m. on Jan. 18**. A **3rd shift**



blood drive will be held in the Cafeteria (Bldg. 210) beginning at **2:15 a.m. on Feb. 16**. To sign up for a blood drive held on either the 2nd or 3rd shift, donors should contact their shift supervisor.



Charlie Corpuscle Says, "On behalf of the patients we serve, Thank You to all of our Arsenal Blood Donors! Not a donor? New donors are always welcome!"

The Army encourages its employees to volunteer as candidates for any of the variety of medical donor programs, including blood, bone marrow, and organ donor/transplant programs. For additional information [click here](#).

Corps of Engineers' Park Rangers at Outdoor Show and RV Camping Shows:

If you have a love for the outdoors and winter is keeping you from participating in your favorite recreational activities then come visit with our ranger staff at the QCCA Expo Center in Rock Island, and get geared up for summer while the cold air is still blowing outside. The Outdoor Show will be held **Feb. 14-17** and our rangers will be on hand to provide information on all



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Rock Island District

the recreational opportunities our project has to offer. We will even have annual day use passes available for sale so that boaters can get ready for the season by purchasing their boat ramp sticker early. The RV Camping Show will be the following weekend **Feb. 22-24** and rangers will be on site to answer questions and provide information on all our camping and recreational areas. For more information on these shows check out the website

www.qccaexpocenter.com.

Jason's Box Save the Date – PTSD/TBI in the Church: Wednesday, **Jan. 9**, 1-3 p.m., in the Jardine Auditorium, at Trinity Medical Center, located at 2701 17th Street, in Rock Island. The free event will be presented by Rev. Scott Fluegel (Army Chaplain). For reservations contact [Stephanie Burrough](#) at (309) 779-3077 to reserve your spot. Reservations are required as seating is limited. ([More](#))

Jason's Box Save the Date – Treating Today's Servicemen & Women: Understanding Deployment, the War Zone Experience and Homecoming: Thursday, **March 14**, in the Gold Room, Hotel Blackhawk, Davenport, 6-6:30 p.m.; registration, buffet dinner, cash bar from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The presentation

will be presented by John Mundt, Ph.D., licensed clinical psychologist and national trauma-informed treatment expert with special guest speaker U.S. Army Maj. Jeffrey Hall, PTSD Survivor. For more information, contact Stephanie Burrough at (309) 779-3077.

Winter Weather Awareness: The weather is getting cooler and almost all the leaves have fallen from the trees. It is important to prepare for winter now before it arrives. Winter storms can range from a



moderate snow over a few hours to a blizzard with blinding, wind-driven snow that lasts for several days. Many winter storms are accompanied by dangerously low temperatures and sometimes by strong winds, icing, sleet and freezing rain. One of the primary concerns is the winter weather's ability to knock out heat, power and communications services to your home or office, sometimes for days at a time. Heavy snowfall and extreme cold can immobilize an entire region. The National Weather Service refers to winter storms as the "Deceptive Killers" because most deaths are indirectly



related to the storm. Instead, people die in traffic accidents on icy roads and of hypothermia from prolonged exposure to cold. It is important to be prepared for winter weather before it strikes. While the majority of the RIA workforce is already aware of this, those who are new to the area may not be. It's always good to review, [please click HERE](#) and take the pledge to prepare today, because you never know when it is the day before a disaster. For more [information, videos and presentations that you can use for your organizational winter weather preparedness efforts](#).

VIOS Schedule for January: Official DA Studio Photography (DA, government passport and command photos) will be offered at Rock Island Arsenal **Jan. 8, 9 and 10.** Appointments may be scheduled online by submitting a DA3903 Work



Request using the [Visual Information Ordering Site](#) for these available times: Tuesday, **Jan. 8**, 7:20 a.m. – 3:40 p.m.; Wednesday, **Jan. 9**, 7:20 a.m. – 3:40 p.m.; Thursday, **Jan. 10**, 7:20 a.m. – 3:40 p.m. Click on "Frequently Asked

Questions" for more information. Walk-in appointments are not available. Photographs will be taken at the Photo Studio (Bldg. 56, basement, by the elevator). Priority is: 1. Active duty Soldier's DA photos; 2. Official government passport photos; 3. Official command photos; 4. DA photos for Army Reserve and Army National Guard Soldiers (not on active duty). The 8"x10" head and shoulders-command photos will be printed and available digitally. Additional prints can be ordered in VIOS. To obtain an official government passport photo: 1. Schedule a passport photo appointment at the RIA VIOS website. 2. Go to Transportation to obtain a printed DA Form 3903, Multi-Media/Visual Information Work Order, signed by the passport agent in Block 14. 3. Present that DA3903 form to the photographer before the passport photo is taken. You will receive two 2"x2" Passport photos. All scheduled dates can be found on the RIA VIOS website FAQ.



Arsenal Traffic/Construction



North Avenue Repair & Closures Update: Directorate of Public Works is postponing storm sewer and paving work on the intersection of North

Avenue and Gillespie until **March-May** due to weather concerns. Minor work on Phases 1 and 2 is expected to be completed within the next two weeks. Please avoid walking through the newly backfilled areas, as these areas are soft and pose a potential safety hazard. POC: Joe Gumpert, (309) 782-1389.

Rock Island Gate Officer Stations:

Effective Dec. 24, at 7 a.m., the Directorate of Public Works (DPW) will begin a project to replace the two officer stations for the vehicular entry lanes at the Rock Island Gate. In order to minimize impact on the workforce, work will be completed in a phased approach, shutting down only one inbound lane at a time. Signage and safety barriers will be positioned at the appropriate locations during the designated lane closure(s). The right hand lane (South) officer station will be replaced first. Replacement began Dec. 24 and be complete by **Jan. 4**. The left hand lane (North) officer station will then be replaced beginning on **Jan. 7**, with completion scheduled for **Jan. 18**. Dates are weather-dependent and any necessary adjustments will be publicized. DPW POC for this action is Joe Gumpert at (309) 782-1389.



North Avenue Opened: Effective Dec. 17, the Directorate of Public Works will open North Avenue between building 62 and East Street. The opening includes the intersections of 2nd and 3rd streets. Traffic signs and barrels will be placed as the contractor will still be working on North Avenue from Gillespie Street to Bldg. 62. Please use caution when traveling around the construction area. DPW POC's for this action are Joe Gumpert, (309) 782-1389 or Mike Panilo, (309) 782-6004.

Building/Space Closures

Closure of Third Floors in Bldg. 61, Bldg. 62: The Directorate of Public Works plans to close Bldg. 61 3rd floor and Bldg. 62 3rd floor, East and South Wings, **Sept. 10 - 3rd week in May** to execute projects. Closure is to prevent individuals from entering the work area and to preclude any potential accidents. Plastic enclosures will be installed from the passenger elevator in Bldg. 62 to the eastern most stairwell in Bldg. 61 so employees in Bldg. 62/3/W have an entry/exit pathway. Entries will be marked with signage and barriers to prevent entry.

Active Duty/Reserve Zone

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The Fiscal Cliff: How It Could Affect Troops: The so-called fiscal cliff is actually a series of four potentially long drops — and the first could have the biggest effect on the pocketbooks of military members and their families because it involves tax rates. But everything involved in the budget imbroglio remains in flux as negotiations continue to try to avoid the fall that some fear could send the nation back into a recession. President Obama said Monday that one of his top priorities is to stop the tax hike. “It appears an agreement to prevent this New Year’s tax hike is within sight, but it is not done,” he said. An agreement might also be reached to delay across-the-board budget cuts. “That is a piece of business that still has to be taken care of,” Obama said. [\(More\)](#)

Down the Hatch: Army Cracks Down on Alcohol Dependence, Binge Drinking: Soldiers are expected to work hard and, as it is popularly understood, to party just as hard. While excessive alcohol consumption and binge drinking are thought to be part of the military lifestyle, the Army is cracking down on such behavior, as it is deemed

detrimental to the force. “Soldiers and their Families have come to realize that irresponsible consumption of alcohol can be a career ender,” said Col. Chad B. McRee, commander, 16th Military Police Brigade and the director of Emergency Services at Fort Bragg. Army doctrine charges its leadership to use the Army values and warrior ethos to set the example for their Soldiers in terms of not abusing alcohol. “Leaders must lead from the front,” said McRee. [\(More\)](#)

What New Marijuana Laws Mean for Troops: Service members hoping to join the party in Colorado and Washington state should think twice about sparking up with the jubilant supporters of marijuana legalization. Already among the 18 states that have legalized medical marijuana, both states became the first ... [\(More\)](#)

Online Program May Help ID Self-Harm Patterns: The Army is developing an online software program leaders hope will help commanding officers connect the dots between a soldier’s history of high-risk behavior and any outward signs he might be considering self-harm. The Commander’s Risk Reduction Dashboard, requested by the Army G-



l's office and scheduled for a February release, will pull incident reports from multiple Army databases to create a profile commanders can consult when considering the best way to intervene with a soldier who might need help. ([More](#))

Safety Spotlight

New Year's Eve Safety Tips: New Year's Eve is a night to have fun and celebrate the coming year. However, safety is a must when participating in the festivities. Whether you're staying in and celebrating with friends and family, or you're traveling to a party or city bash, following a few safety tips will ensure that you're safe and sound when the clock strikes midnight, ringing in the New Year! ([More](#))

New Limits on Cell Phone Use for Illinois Drivers: Drivers in Illinois are coming under more pressure to stay off their cell phone as a result of four new laws Governor Quinn signed on Friday. Governor Quinn says it is the states way to crack down on distracted driving. Starting immediately, mobile use within 500 feet of an emergency zone is prohibited. This also includes using a cell phone to take photos near

emergency sites. Another measure prohibits the use of cell phones by drivers in all roadwork zones. Previously, that restriction only applied to work zones with speed limit reductions. Another law bans commercial drivers from using any hand-held cell phone. Previously, school bus drivers were banned from all cell phone use. Both of those laws take effect Jan. 1. ([More](#))

New Year's Safety Resolution: As the New Year approaches, it's a good time to reflect on the success of your organization's safety program during the past year. Was safety a top priority for everyone in your organization? Did your organization meet its safety objectives, or does your organization need to undertake some new initiatives in the coming year? ([More](#))

Equal Opportunity Focus

DEOMI MLK Holiday Poster and News Release: The Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute has released its 2013 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday poster and news release. You can download the hi-resolution image of the poster here. The accompanying news release is in our

photos album. We think this is a beautiful piece of artwork. Let us know what you think. ([More](#))

Morale, Welfare & Recreation (MWR)

Morale, Welfare & Recreation

(MWR): Visit the MWR website at www.riamwr.com for information on all MWR programs. Also [click here](#) to become a fan on Facebook and stay up to date on all the great MWR offerings here at the Arsenal.

No More Great Escape Theater Tickets from Leisure Travel:

The Leisure Travel Office has sold the last of their supply of discounted movie tickets to Moline's Great Escape movie theater (now the Regal Moline Stadium 14) and due to new management policies at the theater will not be receiving any more in the foreseeable future. All previously purchased tickets will still be honored.

Saturday, Dec. 22 Through Thursday, Jan. 31, Arsenal Island Golf Clubhouse Closed:

During the above period the Golf Clubhouse will close for regular lunch operations to make building renovations. All pre-booked functions will be unaffected by the



closure. Call (309) 782-6319 for more info.

Yoga Now Offered in 6-Week Session:

The RIA Fitness Center will now be offering yoga in a six-week session format like the rest of the class schedule. Price will be pro-rated for partial sessions and as always, you have the option of paying for single classes. Price is \$45 (6 weeks) or \$8 (single). Call (309) 782-6787.

Tuesday Pasta Bar Lunch Special at the Island Oasis Café:

Have your pasta just the way you like it every Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Island Oasis Café located inside the Fitness Center (Bldg. 67). Chef James will whip up your choice of pasta, sauce, veggies and meat into a pasta bowl sure to make your taste buds dance with delight. All this plus a side salad and a breadstick for only \$6.95.

New MWR Website: Come check out our new and improved MWR website at www.riamwr.com for information on all things MWR. We hope that this new layout will make it easier for you to navigate to the information that you need. Please bear with us as we continue to transition all of the files and links from the old web server. If you

cannot find the information that you are looking for or just need help navigating the new layout please feel free to call the MWR marketing office for assistance at (309) 782-4420.

Electronic Marquee Outage: The operating system used to update the outdoor marquee signs on either side of the Island has become obsolete and inoperable. Consequently no requests for messages can be fulfilled and the signs have been shut off at this time. The Garrison is working towards a solution and a future message will be sent out as information becomes available about whether the signs can be repaired or replaced.



MWR Leisure Travel Office



Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Bldg. 60. The office is closed for lunch from 10:30–11 a.m., (309) 782-5890. ([email](#)) ([website](#))

MWR Outdoor Recreation:

Remember Outdoor Recreation for all of your winter outdoor recreation activities. Downhill skis, Cross country skis, snowboards, ice skates, snowshoes and many other items are available for you

to check out and enjoy this winter season.

Time: **8 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

MWR RV Storage and Storage Units:

MWR has several openings for RV storage and Indoor Storage units. For more information or to sign up, please contact Outdoor Recreation at (309) 782-8630.

Time: **8 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

Scooby-Doo LIVE! Musical Mystery

(Adler Theatre): A trouble-making ghost is haunting a local theater and Shaggy, Fred, Daphne, Velma and Scooby-Doo are on their way to help solve it! This hilarious live theater show brings everyone's favorite animated series to life. LTO has limited discounted seats at \$27 on sale until **Feb. 15** or while supplies last.

Date: **Saturday, March 2**

Time: **2 p.m.**

Gabriel Iglesias Stand-up Revolution

Tour (Adler Theatre): Gabriel Iglesias high-octane show is a sure-fire hit: a mixture of storytelling, parodies, characters and sound effects that bring all his personal experiences to life. Gabriel's unique and animated comedy style has made him popular among fans



of all ages. Discounted seats on sale until **Jan. 15** at \$42.

Date: **Thursday, March 7**
Time: **8 p.m.**

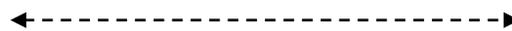
Free Universal Military Only: Active duty and retired members of the military can receive a free three-day, park-to-park ticket with valid military identification. Admission is valid for up to 14 days from first use. Tickets are available for pick up until **March 31** and must be redeemed by **June 30**. Contact LTO at (309) 782-5890.

Rock of Ages (Adler Theatre): In 1987 on the Sunset Strip, a small town girl met a big city rocker and in LA's most famous rock club, they fell in love to the greatest songs of the '80s from Journey, Night Ranger, Styx, Poison, Pat Benatar, Twisted Sister and many more. On sale until **Feb. 26** for \$59.50
Date: **Wednesday, April 24**
Time: **7:30 p.m.**

Bill Cosby – 50 Years of Making You Laugh Smile and Feel Good Tour (Adler Theatre): One of America's most beloved comedians of all time, Bill Cosby, has captivated generations of fans. His comedy transcends age, gender and cultural barriers. Discounted seats on sale for \$60 until **Jan. 15**.

Date: **Saturday, April 27**
Time: **7:30 p.m.**

MWR Outdoor Recreation Seasonal Entrance Change: With the end of the summer season, Outdoor Recreation patrons are asked to use the South Entrance to the Equipment Checkout Center in Bldg. 333.



Child, Youth & School Services

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Covenant Cottage Child Development Home: [Covenant Cottage Child Development Home](#) is available for backup, emergency, and hourly care for ages four weeks through 12 years. The home is located on post and is open from 6 a.m. – 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings. Army Family Covenant Guidelines state deployed Soldiers are entitled to 16 hours free respite childcare per child, per month. For reservations call (309) 782-6793. We encourage you to call as far in advance as possible because spaces fill quickly.



Army Community Service (ACS)

☉
ACS is located in Bldg. 110, 1st floor SE; Visit our [ACS website](#) or phone (309) 782-0829. Call ahead for special accommodations when attending ACS classes. Find us on Facebook [click here](#). 24/7 Sexual Assault Hotline: (309) 229-8412



Special Needs and Family/Social Gatherings: Holidays, family reunions, birthdays, visiting relatives, and other special celebrations can be especially stressful for children with special needs. These activities may bring about unexpected events as well as excessive amounts of sensory input and stress. Such situations can contribute to anxiety, and the child can soon feel overwhelmed. Writing a 'heads-up' letter to hosts/guests before family visits can help make the event more enjoyable. Share the things that will help your child feel comfortable, activities that your child enjoys, preferred foods, and how guests and family members can expect your child to respond when situations may be too much for him/her. If you are traveling, bring special toys, videos, games, or other comfort items. Be sure to plan frequent breaks when traveling. If you are a guest, ask the host to



provide a room where your child can take a break from the crowd. That will help the visit be more enjoyable for everyone. Holidays bring lots of change and increased social demands. Consider keeping the decorations simple and safe. Make sure your decorations will not choke or harm your child if he/she were to touch them or place them in his/her mouth. Send a list of preferred gifts to family members to help everyone feel more fulfilled, that way your child will receive a gift he/she prefers and the family member may get to witness your child enjoying the gift. Prepare your family for the possibility that your child may not want to participate in opening gifts or consider setting a limit on the number of gifts your child is expected to open. At home, you may allow your child to open a gift a day so he/she is not overwhelmed on the actual holiday. Consider using a social narrative to describe what will happen at holidays or birthdays or other special events. If you plan to attend a family reunion or other large gathering, showing your child pictures of the unfamiliar people and places ahead of time may help ease anxiety. Preparing both your child and your family through open communication is always helpful. For other ideas, see the book, [Finding Our Way by Kristi Sakai](#). For more

information on this topic and information on special needs, contact [Jan Saito](#) with the Exceptional Family Member Program at (309) 782-4736. Reference: [Illinois Parent Guide to Autism Spectrum Disorders](#)

Employee Assistance Program

☉ **For free, confidential counseling assistance or for information on services that are available, call (309) 782-4357. Normal business hours are from 7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday - Friday. For additional information on the Employee Assistance Program see [our website](#) or visit us on [Facebook](#). The new location for the EAP/ASAP is Bldg. 56, 1st floor, East.** **Martin Luther King Day of Service – January 2013**: Beat the post-holiday blues this month by helping your community and yourself. The King Day of Service on Martin Luther King Day, Jan. 21, offers you the opportunity to spend a day helping your community in a direct way. The social connection and sense of shared purpose that one gains from community service can often help one feel better. However, if you haven't been feeling well lately and nothing seems to help, consider scheduling a

free, confidential counseling session offered by the Rock Island Arsenal Employee Assistance Program. Master-level counselors provide short-term counseling and referral assistance. Call the EAP at (309) 782-4357 to schedule an appointment. The EAP is located in Bldg. 56, 1st Floor, East Wing and convenient hours are available 7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Rock Island Arsenal EAP hopes you have a great start to the New Year. If you would like to learn more about King Day of Service please visit [www.mlkday.gov](#).

PTSD Support Groups: Is the quality of your life being affected by Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder? The Rock Island Arsenal Health Clinic and Employee Assistance Program are sponsoring support groups to assist you through this difficult challenge. Contact Rita Baugh, EAP counselor, at (309) 782-2552 for more details.

Smoking Cessation Group: Start the New Year with a healthy plan to quit smoking. The Employee Assistance Program offers an ongoing educational support group for people who would like to quit smoking. The group meets each Wednesday, 3-4 p.m., at the EAP office located in Bldg. 56, 1st floor, East.



Education/Training Review

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☪
The Rock Island Army Education Center is located in Bldg. 56, 1st floor, west end of the building. Office hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday - Friday. Phone: (309) 782-2065 Fax: (309) 782-7901. Please visit our [website](#) to learn more.

Women in Defense Scholarship: WID is now accepting applicants for its scholarship program. Scholarship application and eligibility criteria may be found under Scholarship by clicking <http://wid.ndia.org/chapters/IowaIllinoisChapter/Pages/default.aspx> Application submission must be post marked no later than midnight **April 13**. For more information, call (309) 792-4102.

Commissary / Exchange

☪
The [Rock Island Commissary](#) and the [Exchange](#) are for active duty military and retirees only, with the exception of select items (mainly consumable) at the Exchange that can be purchased by Arsenal Island employees with ID.

The Commissary makes fresh fruit baskets daily for you! Shopping for someone who has everything? Problem solved. They are hungry for fresh fruit. Just buy them a fruit basket and relax. Ask our friendly staff to make you one or order one in advance. Check out local specials and get POC information [HERE](#). For information on this and other Commissaries, visit: www.commissaries.com ([Facebook](#))

Food Safety Alerts: For information about the latest food-safety alerts and product recalls affecting military commissaries, visit www.commissaries.com and click on the Food & Product Recalls under the Quick Links box on the front page. For general food-safety information, visit the website and choose Food Safety at the bottom of the page.

Sales Flyers: Patrons can visit the [AAFES website](#) and sign up to receive free online sales flyers.

Arsenal Archive

☪
Information for the *Arsenal Archive* is made available by the Rock Island Arsenal Museum. The Museum is

open to the public, Tuesday through Saturday, 12-4 p.m. Closed Sunday, Monday, federal holidays, the Friday after Thanksgiving, and Christmas Eve. Admission is free.

This Week in Rock Island Arsenal History – Dec. 31-Jan.7: Automotive Section established in Shop M, Bldg. 220, in January 1919. By Jan. 3, 1880, the rolling mill in Shop F, with its furnace and steam hammer, had turned out hammered blooms for production of high grade iron for use in roof construction of Arsenal shops. In January 1958, the RIA began manufacturing prototype XM7D (T143) model rocket launcher. In January 1957, development work on the Honest John and Little John rocket launchers continued at the RIA.

Healthbeat

☪
New Year's Eve Party Skills That Can Add Years to Your Life: Here's a reason to party: It might add years to your life. Researchers at the University of Edinburgh tracked 298 gorillas at zoos in the U.S. and Canada for two decades. On average, the most social and outgoing gorillas outlived the more introverted simians by 3 to 4 years. And



the trend carries over into the human world: Extroverted people have been shown to outlive homebodies in recent studies. ([More](#))

Eat Asparagus, and More

Questionable Ways to Ease Your Hangover:

After all the champagne, beer, spirits or (and?) wine on New Year's Eve, some of us will wake up with a persistent pounding in our heads, mouths as dry as deserts and overwhelming nausea -- all the telltale signs of a hangover. What can make this terrible feeling go away? "The only thing that actually helps is not drinking," says Dr. Glen Aukerman, medical director of the Ohio State University Center for Integrated Medicine, using logic to wreck everyone's festive mood. He notes that taking calcium, magnesium and a complete B supplement and drinking lots of water helps with hangover symptoms. ([More](#))

Health Clinic Announcement: Sick Call Hours 7-8 a.m. Tricare closed **Dec. 21 to Jan 1**. Radiology closed to **Jan 2**. Clinic closed Jan. 1- holidays. Clinic closed, Friday, staff meeting - **Dec. 28** at 11:30 a.m. For any issues or concerns with the RIAHC clinic please call our customer support line (309) 782-0721.

Notes for Veterans



Pentagon Debuting Float in Rose

Parade to Honor Veterans: It's been almost 60 years since James McEachin returned home with a bullet still lodged in his chest, finding an America indifferent toward the troops who fought in Korea. Now he will get the homecoming parade he had expected. The Defense Department for the first time will put a float in Pasadena's Tournament of Roses — one of the most watched parades — to commemorate the veterans from a conflict that still casts a shadow over the world. ([More](#))

VA's disability Claims Backlog Tops

900,000: The Veterans Affairs Department's disability claims backlog edged above the 900,000 mark this week, with 608,365 -- 67.6 percent -- stuck in the system more than 125 days. VA reported Thursday that total disability claims hit 900,121 as of Dec. 24, up 24,725 -- 2.7 percent -- from the backlog that existed at the start of the calendar year on Jan. 3, 2012. Claims backlogged more than 125 days increased 7.5 percent or 45,245 since January. In April, representatives of veterans services organizations described the backlog of 897,566

disability claims, with more than 65 percent pending for more than 125 days, as a "staggering" figure that denies veterans quick payment of benefits.

([More](#))

Car Pooling Announcements



Submit car pooling announcements via the [Island Insight submission page](#). Please use that page to contact Garrison Public Affairs to take your announcement off once you have found a ride.

Car Pool:

- **Car Pool:** New hire with flexible hours seeking to pay for ride from Moline 9th & 53rd, (Franklin School area) (309) 757-5755.
- **Car Pool:** Looking to join a car pool or ride and pay. IL 84 southbound Fulton/ Albany/ Cordova area. Interested text me at (563) 650-8791.
- **Car Pool:** Looking for members to join carpool along the Hwy. 61 corridor from Dubuque to Rock Island Arsenal, 2nd shift 2:15-10:30 p.m. Starting in the middle April. [Email](#) or call (815) 651-4624.



Around the Q.C.



Jan. 5: [Not Dead Yet! - A Celebration of Survival](#) (Moline Public Library)

Jan. 11-13: [Bald Eagle Days](#) (QCCA Expo Center)

Jan. 11-13: [Quad City Boat & Vacation Show](#) (RiverCenter, Davenport)

Jan. 12: [Quad Cities Birth Conference](#) (Villa Montessori School, Moline)

Jan. 13: [Chocolate Fest](#) (Quad City Botanical Center)

Jan. 18-21: [Be a Tourist in Your Own Backyard Weekend](#) (Quad City Visitors Center)

Jan. 20-22: [QC Farm Equipment Show](#) (QCCA Expo Center)

Feb. 14: [Valentine Walk](#) (Watchtower Lodge, Black Hawk State Historic Site, Rock Island)

Feb. 14-17: [2013 Outdoor Show](#) (QCCA Expo Center)

Feb. 22-24: [RV & Camping Show](#) (QCCA Expo Center)

Feb. 24: [CBRC Chili Chase 4 Mile Run/Walk](#) (Duck Creek Park Lodge, Davenport)

March 1-3: [Antique Spectacular](#) (QCCA Expo Center)

March 16: [St. Patrick's Day Parade](#) (downtown Rock Island to downtown Davenport)

March 22-24: [Flower & Garden Show](#) (QCCA Expo Center)

March 23: [Quad-Cities Comic Book Convention](#) (Ramada Inn, Bettendorf)

April 7: [Gilda's Run for Laughs](#) (Waterfront Convention Center, Bettendorf)

April 20: [Earth Week Fair](#) (QCCA Expo Center)

April 27: [Quad Cities Cruisers Cruise-In](#) (SouthPark Mall, Moline)

May 4: [Derby Day Party](#) (Arsenal Island Golf Course Clubhouse)

May 4: [Venus Envy](#) (Bucktown Center for the Arts, Davenport)

May 11-12: [Beaux Arts Fair](#) (Figge Art Museum plaza, Davenport)

May 25: [Quad Cities Cruisers Cruise-In](#) (SouthPark Mall, Moline)

May 27: [Quad Cities Criterium](#) (Downtown Rock Island)

June 1-2: [QC Pridefest 2013, Bursting With Pride](#) (Mary's on 2nd, 832 West 2nd Street, Davenport)

June 7-8: [Gumbo Ya Ya - Mardi Gras in The District](#) (The District, Rock Island)

June 12-15: [Rally on the River](#) (Centennial Park, Davenport)

June 14: [Greek Cultural Festival](#) (Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, East Moline)

June 16: [Ride the River Bike Ride](#) (Davenport to Moline)

June 23: [Blossoms at Butterworth](#) (Butterworth Center, Moline)

June 25-29: [Rock Island County Fair](#) (Fairgrounds, East Moline)

June 27-29: [Antique Automobile Club of America Grand National Show](#) (John Deere Commons, Moline)

July 3: [Red, White & Boom!](#) (The District, Downtown Davenport)

July 4-6: [Mississippi Valley Blues Festival](#) (LeClaire Park, Davenport)

July 8-14: [John Deere Classic PGA Tour](#) (TPC Deere Run, Silvis)

July 19-21: [USA BMX National Championships](#) (East Moline BMX Speedway)

July 19-20: [Heartland Jam](#) (Centennial Park, Downtown Davenport)

July 26-27: [Downtown Street Fest](#) (Downtown Davenport)

July 27: [Bix 7 Run/Walk](#) (Downtown Davenport)

July 30-Aug. 4: [Great Mississippi Valley Fair](#) (Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds, Davenport)

Aug. 1-4: [Bix Beiderbecke Memorial Jazz Festival](#) (LeClaire Park and RiverCenter)

Aug. 8-10: [Tug Fest](#) (LeClaire, Iowa and Port Byron, Ill.)

Aug. 9-10: [Ya Maka My Weekend](#) (The District, Rock Island)

Aug. 10-17: [ISC Men's Fastpitch World Tournament](#) (Greenvalley Sports Complex, Moline)

Aug. 16-17: [River Roots Live](#) (Downtown Davenport)

Aug. 17: [Floatzilla](#) (Sunset Marina, Rock Island)

Aug. 24: [Quad Cities Irish Festival](#) (Rock Island)

Aug. 22-25: [World Series of Drag Racing](#) (Cordova Dragway)

Aug. 31-Sept. 1: [Rock Island Grand Prix](#) (Downtown Rock Island)

Sept. 7: [Quad City Symphony Riverfront Pops](#) (LeClaire Park, Downtown Davenport)

Sept. 7: [¡VIVA! Quad Cities](#) (Isle Casino Hotel Bettendorf)

Sept. 7-8: [27th Annual Quad City Air Show](#) (Davenport Municipal Airport)

Sept. 7-8: [Beaux Arts Fair](#) (Downtown Davenport)

Sept. 21: [Brew Ha Ha](#) (LeClaire Park, Davenport)

Sept. 21: [Celtic Festival & Highland Games](#) (Centennial Park, Davenport)



- Sept. 21-22:** [Riverssance Festival of Fine Arts](#) (Village of East Davenport)
Sept. 22: [Quad Cities Marathon](#) (Downtown Moline)
Sept. 27-29: [Hot Air Balloon Festival](#) (Kennedy Square, East Moline)
Oct. 12: [Trinity Quad Cities Classic Regatta](#) (On the Mississippi River in Moline)
Oct. 24: [Fright Night](#) (The District, Rock Island)
Oct. 26: [Witches Walk](#) (Downtown LeClaire)
Oct. 26: [Lagomarcino's Cocoa Beano 5K Race](#) (Sylvan Island)
Oct. 26-27: [Boo at the Zoo](#) (Niabi Zoo, Milan)
Nov. 15-24: [Quad City Arts Festival of Trees](#) (RiverCenter, Davenport)
Nov. 16: [Festival of Trees Parade](#) (Downtown Davenport)
Nov. 16: [Lighting on the John Deere Commons and Holiday Pops Concert](#) (Downtown Moline)
Dec. 1: [19th Century Christmas](#) (Butterworth Center, Moline)



Island Insight



Joel Himsl, Garrison Manager; **Eric Cramer**, Public Affairs Officer; **Mark Kane**, Editor

The Army publication, *Island Insight*, is an unofficial publication authorized under [AR 360-1](#) to provide information on people, policies, operations, technical developments, trends and ideas of, about, and of interest to the Rock Island Arsenal community. It is published weekly using word processor software and Adobe

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For Hosts

- Collect car keys from guests as they arrive, and return them to only those guests who are not impaired
- Offer alcohol-free beverages and plenty of food so guests have alternatives to alcohol
- Ensure guests leave sober or with a sober designated driver, or call a cab for guests without a ride
- Keep alcoholic beverages off limits to all guests under the age of 21

For Guests

- Make a plan, designate a nondrinking buddy and give them the keys
- Prearrange a taxi service or have the numbers for local cab companies programmed into your cellphone
- Rotate designated driver responsibilities and, if no one else volunteers, speak up and offer to stay sober

If you're starting your celebration with a bottle, please don't drive...

Olde Schiroppe 80 Proof

and end it in a box

Nott's Scotch Whisky





Take 5

Safe and Sober
Celebrating

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